

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EV 976 545 965 US

DATE MAILED: August 22, 2005

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-indicated application, and is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed on May 23, 2005. This response is timely filed, being mailed within three-months from the date of mailing of the Final Office Action.

Please consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 6.